

Outbreaks of Rash Illness – a Systematic Approach

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Objectives

- Review key steps of outbreak investigation
 - Establish the existence of the outbreak
 - Confirm the diagnosis
 - Institute control measures
- Illustrate with case studies

Organization

- Viral / vaccine preventable
 - Rapid diagnosis and institution of control measures
- Viral / non-vaccine preventable
- Bacterial / zoonotic
- Bacterial / other
- Contact dermatitis
- Mass sociogenic illness

Not covered

- STDs
 - Primary HIV infection
 - Disseminated gonorrhea
- Imported and other arboviruses
 - West Nile
 - Chikungunya
 - Dengue

Not covered (continued)

- Other ...
 - Meningococcus
 - Histoplasmosis
 - Adenovirus
 - Cytomegalovirus
 - Epstein-Barr virus
 - Leptospira
 - Salmonella typhi

Vocabulary

Terminology	Definition
Macule	Circumscribed area of skin with a change in normal skin color, but neither raised nor depressed
Morbilliform	Measles-like rash - macular lesions that are red and are usually 2-10 mm in diameter but may be confluent in places
Papule	Solid, raised lesion up to 0.5 cm in greatest diameter

Vocabulary (2)

Terminology	Definition
Petechiae	Pinpoint, round spots that appear on the skin as a result of bleeding under the skin – may appear red, brown or purple.
Pustule	Circumscribed elevation of skin containing purulent fluid
Reticular	Macular rash in a net-like or lace-like pattern
Vesicle	Circumscribed elevated fluid-containing lesion, less than 0.5 cm in greatest diameter